a signal processor that supplies electrical signals to the transmitter for transmission of data as infrared signals and that receives electrical signals from the receiver representing infrared signals of data received thereby,

a power supply connected to operate the infrared signal transmitter, the infrared signal receiver and the signal processor either in a fully operational mode or in a stand-by mode,

a detection circuit connected to the infrared signal receiver in a manner to generate a power-up signal in response to an IrDA discovery infrared signal being received by the infrared signal receiver when operating in the stand-by mode, and

wherein the power supply responds to the power-up signal by switching operation of the infrared signal transmitter, the infrared signal receiver and the signal processor from the stand-by mode to the fully operational mode.

43. (New) The communications device of claim 42, wherein the power supply consists of a battery source of power.

44. (New) The communications device of claim 42, wherein the detection circuit is separate from the signal processor and operable when in a stand-by mode.

45. (New) An infrared signal transceiver system, comprising:

a battery supply of power having fully operational and stand-by power states,

a transmitter of infrared signals containing data supplied by a host that operates when the system is in the fully operational power state but not when in the stand-by power state,

a receiver of infrared signals containing data provided to a host that operates when the system is in the fully operational power state but not when in the stand-by power state,

a detector circuit connected to the infrared signal receiver that causes the power supply to switch to the fully operational power state in response to receipt by the infrared signal receiver of an IrDA discovery infrared signal when the system is in the stand-by power state.

46. (New) In an infrared transceiver system having an infrared data signal transmitter, an infrared data receiver and signal processing and controlling electronics that are powered either in a fully operational mode or in a stand-by mode by a power supply, the combination additionally comprising a second infrared signal receiver and a detection circuit connected thereto that emits, in response to the second receiver receiving an IrDA discovery

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infrared signal, a power-up signal that causes the power supply to switch from the stand-by power mode to the fully operational power mode.

47. (New) A method of operating an infrared transceiver system having an infrared data signal transmitter, an infrared data receiver and signal processing and controlling electronics that are powered by battery source either in a fully operational mode or in a stand-by mode, comprising:

detecting receipt of an IrDA discovery infrared signal when the transceiver system is in the stand-by power mode, and

in response to receipt of the IrDA discovery infrared signal when the transceiver system is in the stand-by power mode, causing the transceiver system to switch from the stand-by power mode to the fully operational power mode.

Cont

48. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein receipt of the IrDA discovery infrared signal is detected by an infrared receiver that is also used to receive other infrared data signals when the transceiver system is in the fully operational power mode.

49. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein receipt of the IrDA discovery infrared signal is detected by a secondary infrared receiver that is included in addition to a primary infrared data signal receiver.

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